



INDIANA RURAL ROUNDTABLE – AG DEVELOPMENT

The Rural Roundtable is a collaborative network representing businesses, organizations and institutions with vested interest in and commitment to the advancement of Indiana's rural communities. Collectively, this group is intended to represent rural community stakeholders from private, public, non-profit entities at local, state and federal levels. The intent of this body is to work collaboratively for the betterment of Indiana's rural communities.

Thursday/Friday Breakout Session Information:

Breakout Session #1(Thursday) *"What to Know to Get Started – Take that Hobby and Make it a Job"* session will feature entrepreneurs who have been successful in creating a product and developing it to the next level. This panel will provide key insights from a variety of AG business areas e.g. a farmers market/value added food, to ag-tourism opportunities to the field of art.

Breakout Session #2 (Thursday) *"What to Know to Grow"* session will use a panel approach that will explore key components necessary to operate and grow not only local and regional AG business markets but the larger national or international markets.

Breakout Session #3 (Friday) *"Helping AG Grow"* will examine various policy issues impacting agriculture (e.g. using taxes and land use planning to expand economic growth in agriculture, environmental regulations to support agribusiness). The session will also highlight the roles and resources of AG agencies such as USDA, SBA, Soil & Water Conservation, etc.).

Breakout Session #4 (Friday) *"Creating Economic AG Impact – Making the Connections"* will be a moderated panel approach utilizing people from Thursday's session to share with participants the value of agribusiness has in your community when everyone is connected. The session will help attendees think about ways to connect these folks and expand economic opportunities and tourism. Examples will be highlighted such as "My Local Indiana" or "Visitsouthernindiana.com".